

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Rep. Slaughter Announces \$119,500 in Federal Funding for Arts Programs in the 28th District

Six Organizations Awarded Grants to Continue Work Promoting Art and Learning

Washington, DC - Rep. Louise M. Slaughter (D-Fairport), Ranking Member of the House Rules Committee, is pleased to announce that the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) has awarded \$119,500 in federal funds to six Buffalo, Erie County, and Rochester arts programs.

"We have to appreciate just how much the arts contribute to our daily lives and expand our knowledge of the world," Rep. Slaughter said. **"They are a wonderful teaching tool. Groups and organizations use the arts in exciting ways every day to educate our children, with inspiring results,"** she added.

As a Co-Chair of the Congressional Arts Caucus, Rep. Slaughter has been a long-time supporter of the NEA and its mission to bring the arts to the public. This past Monday, the Congresswoman sent a letter she authored to Reps. Charles Taylor (R-NC-11) and Norman

Dicks (D-WA-6), Chairman and Ranking Member respectively of the Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies Appropriations Subcommittee, urging that the National Endowment for the Arts to be funded at \$170 million per year.

The request was co-signed by 112 Members of the House. The last time the NEA received funding at this level was in 1994.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION ON THE AWARDS

The awards were given to organizations that bring artistic endeavors to the public and which strive to use art to further literacy and other education efforts.

Buffalo and Erie County:

The Just Buffalo Literary Center, Inc. received two grants totaling \$40,000 to further its work conducting literature outreach projects throughout the greater Buffalo area. The Center has

proposed exciting new programs, like World of Voices, which will bring international writers to Western New York for week-long residences.

The Irish Classical Theatre Company received \$12,000 for its production of *Observe the Song of Ulster Marching Toward the Somme*

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Rochester:

The University of Rochester received two grants totaling \$25,000 to support the museum's permanent collection.

The Rochester Philharmonic Orchestra was the recipient of \$22,500 to support programs such as Symphony 101, an outreach project of community concerts for underserved and low-income residents.

Writers and Books Inc. was granted \$15,000 for its Literary Learning for a Lifetime project, a series of educational and outreach programs.

The Genesee Street Corporation received \$30,000 to conduct an after-school photography project for students.

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